

commencing January 1 and continuing through December 31. The commissioner will issue a bulletin stating the details of the revised percentage;

2. the commissioner shall have the discretion to permit variance from the minimum percentages set forth in §3915 upon a determination by the Department of Insurance that a viator's insurance policy is within the contestability period permitted by R.S. 22:172;

3. the commissioner may permit variance from the minimum percentages set forth if the expected premium to be paid by the viatical settlement provider exceeds 5 percent of the face value of the policy.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 22, Sections 3 and 210.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Insurance, Office of the Commissioner, LR 22:989 (October 1996).

§3917. General Rules

A. With respect to policies containing a provision for double or additional indemnity for accidental death or any other additional death benefits, the additional payment shall remain payable to the beneficiary last named by the viator prior to entering into the viatical settlement contract, or to such other beneficiary, other than the viatical settlement provider, as the viator may thereafter designate, or in the absence of a designation, to the estate of the viator, unless otherwise mutually agreed to, in writing, by the viator and viatical settlement provider.

B. Payments of the proceeds pursuant to a viatical settlement shall be made in a lump sum. Retention of a portion of the proceeds pursuant to a viatical settlement by a provider or escrow agent is not permissible.

C. A viatical settlement provider or broker shall not discriminate in the making of viatical settlements on the basis of race, age, sex, national origin, creed, religion, occupation, marital or family status or sexual orientation, or discriminate between viators with dependents and without.

D. A viatical settlement provider or broker shall not pay or offer to pay any finder's fee, commission or other compensation to any viator's physician, attorney, accountant, or other person providing medical, legal or financial planning services to the viator, or to any other person acting as an agent of the viator with respect to the viatical settlement.

E. Contacts for the purpose of determining the health status of the viator by the viatical provider or broker after the viatical settlement has occurred should be limited to once every three months for viators with a life expectancy of more than one year, and to no more than one per month for viators with a life expectancy of one year or less. The provider or broker shall explain the procedure for these contacts at the time the viatical settlement contract is entered into.

F. Viatical settlement providers and brokers shall not solicit investors who could influence the treatment of the illness of the viators whose coverage would be the subject of the investment.

G. Advertising Standards

1. Advertising should be truthful and not misleading by fact or implication.

2. If the advertiser emphasizes the speed with which the viatication will occur, the advertising must disclose the average time frame from completed application to the date of offer and from acceptance of the offer to receipt of the funds by the viator.

3. If the advertising emphasizes the dollar amounts available to viators, the advertising shall disclose the average purchase price as a percent of face value obtained by viators contracting with the advertiser during the past six months.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 22, Sections 3 and 210.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Insurance, Office of the Commissioner, LR 22:989 (October 1996).

Chapter 41. Regulation 60C Advertising of Life Insurance

§4101. Purpose

A. The purpose of this regulation is to set forth minimum standards and guidelines to assure a full and truthful disclosure to the public of all material and relevant information in the advertising of life insurance policies and annuity contracts.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. Title 22, Section 3.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Insurance, Office of the Commissioner, LR 22:1224 (December 1996).

§4103. Definitions

Advertisement

1. material designed to create public interest in life insurance or annuities or in an insurer, or in an insurance producer; or to induce the public to purchase, increase, modify, reinstate, borrow on, surrender, replace, or retain a policy including:

a. printed and published material, audiovisual material, and descriptive literature of an insurer or insurance producer used in direct mail, newspapers, magazines, radio and television scripts, billboards, similar displays, the Internet or any other mass communication media;

b. descriptive literature and sales aids of all kinds, authored by the insurer, its insurance producers, or third parties, issued, distributed, or used by such insurer or insurance producer including, but not limited to, circulars, leaflets, booklets, web pages, depictions, illustrations, and form letters;

c. material used for the recruitment, training, and education of an insurer's insurance producers which is designed to be used or is used to induce the public to purchase, increase, modify, reinstate, borrow on, surrender, replace, or retain a policy;

d. prepared sales talks, presentations, and material for use by insurance producers.

2. *Advertisement*, for the purpose of these rules shall not include:

a. communications or materials used within an insurer's own organization and not intended for dissemination to the public;

b. communications with policyholders other than material urging policyholders to purchase, increase, modify, reinstate, or retain a policy;

c. a general announcement from a group or blanket policyholder to eligible individuals on an employment or membership list that a policy or program has been written or arranged; provided the announcement clearly indicates that it is preliminary to the issuance of a booklet explaining the proposed coverage.

Department or Department of Insurance The Louisiana Department of Insurance.

Determinable Policy Elements Elements that are derived from processes or methods that are guaranteed at issue and not subject to company discretion, but where the values or amounts cannot be determined until some point after issue. These elements include the premiums, credited interest rates (including any bonus), benefits, values, non-interest based credits, charges or elements of formulas used to determine any of these. These elements may be described as guaranteed but not determined at issue. An element is considered determinable if it was calculated from underlying determinable policy elements only, or from both determinable and guaranteed policy elements.

Guaranteed Policy Elements The premiums, benefits, values, credits or charges under a policy, or elements of formulas used to determine any of these that are guaranteed and determined at issue.

Insurance Producer A person (as defined in R.S. 22:1212.D) solicits, negotiates, effects, procures, delivers, renews, continues, or binds policies of insurance for risks residing, located, or intended for issuance in this state.

Insurer Includes any individual, corporation, association, partnership, reciprocal exchange, inter-insurer, Lloyd's, Fraternal Benefit Society, and any other legal entity which is defined as an insurer in the *Louisiana Insurance Code* or issues life insurance or annuities in this state and is engaged in the advertisement of a policy.

Nonguaranteed Policy Elements The premiums, credited interest rates (including any bonus) benefits, values, non-interest based credits, charges, or elements that are subject to company discretion and are not guaranteed at issue. An element is considered nonguaranteed if any of the underlying nonguaranteed elements are used in its calculation. *Policy* includes any policy, plan, certificate, including a fraternal benefit certificate, contract, agreement, statement of coverage, rider, or endorsement which provides for life insurance or annuity benefits.

Policy Includes any policy, plan, certificate, including a fraternal benefit certificate, contract, agreement, statement of coverage, rider, or endorsement which provides for life insurance or annuity benefits.

Pre-Need Funeral Contract or Prearrangement Can agreement by or for an individual before the individual's death relating to the purchase or provision of specific funeral or cemetery merchandise or services.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 22:3.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Insurance, Office of the Commissioner, LR 22:1225 (December 1996), amended LR 28:2363 (November 2002).

§4105. Applicability

A. These rules shall apply to any life insurance or annuity advertisement intended for dissemination in this state. In variable contracts where disclosure requirements are established pursuant to federal regulation, this regulation shall be interpreted so as to eliminate conflict with federal regulation.

B. Every insurer shall establish, and at all times maintain, a system of control over the content, form, and method of dissemination of all advertisements of its policies. A system of control shall include regular and routine notification, at least once a year, to producers and others authorized by the insurer to disseminate advertisements of the requirement and procedures for company approval prior to the use of any advertisements that is not furnished by the insurer and that clearly sets forth within the notice the most serious consequence of not obtaining the required prior approval. All such advertisements, regardless of by whom written, created, designed, or presented, shall be the responsibility of the insurer, as well as the producer who created or presented the advertisement, provided the insurer shall not be responsible for advertisements that are published in violation of written procedures or guidelines of the insurer.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 22:3.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Insurance, Office of the Commissioner, LR 22:1225 (December 1996), amended LR 28:2364 (November 2002).

§4107. Form and Content of Advertisements

A. Advertisements shall be truthful and not misleading in fact or by implication. The form and content of an advertisement of a policy shall be sufficiently complete and clear so as to avoid deception. It shall not have the capacity or tendency to mislead or deceive.

B. No advertisement shall use the terms investment, investment plan, founder's plan, charter plan, deposit, expansion plan, profit, profits, profit sharing, interest plan, savings, savings plan, private pension plan, retirement plan or other similar terms in connection with a policy in a context or under such circumstances or conditions as to have the capacity or tendency to mislead a purchaser or prospective purchaser of such policy to believe that he will receive, or that it is possible that he will receive, something other than a policy or some benefit not available to other persons of the same class and equal expectation of life.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 22:3.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Insurance, Office of the Commissioner, LR 22:1225 (December 1996), amended LR 28:2364 (November 2002).

§4109. Disclosure Requirements

A. The information required to be disclosed by these rules shall not be minimized, rendered obscure, or presented in an ambiguous fashion or intermingled with the text of the advertisement so as to be confusing or misleading.

B. No advertisement shall omit material information or use words, phrases, statements, references, or illustrations if such omission or such use has the capacity, tendency, or effect of misleading or deceiving purchasers or prospective purchasers as to the nature or extent of any policy benefit payable, loss covered, premium payable, or state or federal tax consequences. The fact that the policy offered is made available to a prospective insured for inspection prior to consummation of the sale, or an offer is made to refund the premium if the purchaser is not satisfied, does not remedy misleading statements.

C. In the event an advertisement uses *Non-Medical, No Medical Examination Required*, or similar terms where issue is not guaranteed, such items shall be accompanied by a further disclosure, of equal prominence and in juxtaposition thereto, to the effect that issuance of the policy may depend upon the answers to the health questions set forth in the application.

D. An advertisement shall not use as the name or title of a life insurance policy any phrase which does not include the words *life insurance* unless accompanied by other language clearly indicating it is life insurance. An advertisement shall not use as the name or title of an annuity contract any phrase that does not include the word "annuity" unless accompanied by other language clearly indicating it is an annuity. An annuity advertisement shall not refer to an annuity as a CD annuity, or deceptively compare an annuity to a certificate of deposit.

E. An advertisement shall prominently describe the type of policy advertised.

F. An advertisement of an insurance policy marketed by direct response techniques shall not state or imply that because there is no insurance producer or commission involved there will be a cost saving to prospective purchasers unless such is the fact. No such cost savings may be stated or implied without justification satisfactory to the Department of Insurance prior to use.

G. An advertisement for a life insurance policy containing graded or modified benefits shall prominently display any limitation of benefits. If the premium is level and coverage decreases or increases with age or duration, such fact shall be prominently disclosed. An advertisement of or for a life insurance policy under which the death benefit varies with the length of time the policy has been in force shall accurately describe and clearly call attention to the amount of minimum death benefit under the policy.

H. An advertisement for the types of policies described in §4109.F and G shall not use the words *inexpensive, low cost*, or other phrase or words of similar import when such

policies are being marketed to persons who are 50 years of age or older, where the policy is guaranteed issue.

I. Premiums

1. An advertisement for a policy with nonlevel premiums shall prominently describe the premium changes.

2. An advertisement in which the insurer describes a policy where it reserves the right to change the amount of the premium during the policy term, but which does not prominently describe this feature, is deemed to be deceptive and misleading and is prohibited.

3. An advertisement shall not contain a statement or representation that premiums paid for a life insurance policy can be withdrawn under the terms of the policy. Reference may be made to amounts paid into an advance premium fund, which are intended to pay premiums at a future time, to the effect that they may be withdrawn under the conditions of the prepayment agreement. Reference may also be made to withdrawal rights under any unconditional premium refund offer.

4. An advertisement which represents a pure endowment benefit as a *profit* or *return* on the premium paid rather than as a policy benefit for which a specific premium is paid is deemed to be deceptive and misleading and is prohibited.

5. An advertisement shall not represent in any way that premium payments will not be required for each year of the policy in order to maintain the illustrated death benefits, unless that is the fact.

6. An advertisement shall not use the term "vanish" or "vanishing premium," or a similar term that implies the policy becomes paid up, to describe a plan using nonguaranteed elements to pay a portion of future premiums.

J. Analogies between a life insurance policy's cash values and savings accounts or other investments and between premium payments and contributions to savings accounts or other investments must be complete and accurate. An advertisement shall not emphasize the investment or tax features of a life insurance policy to such a degree that the advertisement would mislead the purchaser to believe the policy is anything other than life insurance.

K. An advertisement shall not state or imply in any way that interest charged on a policy loan or the reduction of death benefits by the amount of outstanding policy loans is unfair, inequitable, or in any manner an incorrect or improper practice.

L. If nonforfeiture values are shown in any advertisement, the values must be shown either for the entire amount of the basic life policy death benefit or for each \$1,000 of initial death benefit.

M. The words *free, no cost, without cost, no additional cost, at no extra cost*, or words of similar import shall not be used with respect to any benefit or service being made available with a policy unless true. If there is no charge to the insured, then the identity of the payor must be prominently disclosed. An advertisement may specify the charge for a benefit or a service or may state that a charge is included in the premium or use other appropriate language.

N. No insurance producer may use terms such as *financial planner*, *investment advisor*, *financial consultant*, or *financial counseling* in such a way as to imply that he or she is generally engaged in an advisory business in which compensation is unrelated to sales, unless such actually is the case. This provision is not intended to preclude persons who hold some form of formal recognized financial planning or consultant designation from using this designation even when they are only selling insurance. This provision also is not intended to preclude persons who are members of a recognized trade or professional association having such terms as part of its name from citing membership, providing that a person citing membership, if authorized only to sell insurance products, shall disclose that fact. This provision does not permit persons to charge an additional fee for services that are customarily associated with the solicitation, negotiation or servicing of policies.

O. Nonguaranteed Policy Elements

1. An advertisement shall not utilize or describe nonguaranteed policy elements in a manner which is misleading or has the capacity or tendency to mislead.

2. An advertisement shall not state or imply that the payment or amount of nonguaranteed policy elements is guaranteed. If nonguaranteed policy elements are illustrated, they must be based on the insurer's current scale, and the illustration must contain a statement to the effect that they are not to be construed as guarantees or estimates of amounts to be paid in the future.

3. An advertisement that includes any illustrations or statements containing or based upon nonguaranteed elements shall set forth, with equal prominence, comparable illustrations or statements containing or based upon the guaranteed elements.

4. If an advertisement refers to any nonguaranteed policy element, it shall indicate that the insurer reserves the right to change any such element at any time and for any reason. However, if an insurer has agreed to limit this right in any way; such as, for example, if it has agreed to change these elements only at certain intervals or only if there is a change in the insurer's current or anticipated experience, the advertisement may indicate any such limitation on the insurer's right.

5. An advertisement shall not refer to dividends as Tax Free or use words of similar import, unless the tax treatment of dividends is fully explained and the nature of the dividend as a return of premium is indicated clearly.

6. An advertisement shall not use or describe determinable policy elements in a manner that is misleading or has the capacity or tendency to mislead.

7. An advertisement may describe determinable policy elements as guaranteed but not determinable at issue. This description should include an explanation of how these elements operate, and their limitations, if any.

8. An advertisement may not state or imply that illustrated dividends under either or both a participating policy or pure endowment will be or can be sufficient at any future time to assure without the future payment of

premiums, the receipt of benefits, such as a paid-up policy, unless the advertisement clearly and precisely explains the benefits or coverage provided at that time and the conditions required for that to occur.

P. An advertisement shall not state that a purchaser of a policy will share in or receive a stated percentage or portion of the earnings on the general account assets of the company.

Q. Testimonials, Appraisals, Analysis, or Endorsements by Third Parties

1. Testimonials, appraisals or analysis used in advertisements must be genuine; represent the current opinion of the author; be applicable to the policy advertised, if any; and be accurately reproduced with sufficient completeness to avoid misleading or deceiving prospective insureds as to the nature or scope of the testimonial, appraisal, analysis or endorsement. In using testimonials, appraisals, or analysis the insurer or insurance producer makes as its own all of the statements contained therein, and such statements are subject to all the provisions of these rules.

2. If the individual making a testimonial, appraisal, analysis, or an endorsement has a financial interest in the insurer or a related entity as a stockholder, director, officer, employee, or otherwise, or receives any benefit directly or indirectly other than required union scale wages, such fact shall be prominently disclosed in the advertisement.

3. An advertisement shall not state or imply that an insurer or a policy has been approved or endorsed by a group of individuals, society, association, or other organization unless such is the fact and unless any proprietary relationship between an organization and the insurer is disclosed. If the entity making the endorsement or testimonial is owned, controlled, or managed by the insurer, or receives any payment or other consideration from the insurer for making such endorsement or testimonial, such fact shall be disclosed in the advertisement.

4. When an endorsement refers to benefits received under a policy for a specific claim, the claim date, including claim number, date of loss and other pertinent information shall be retained by the insurer for inspection for a period of five years after the discontinuance of its use or publication.

R. An advertisement shall not contain statistical information relating to any insurer or policy unless it accurately reflects recent and relevant facts. The source of any such statistics used in an advertisement shall be identified therein.

S. Policies Sold to Students

1. The envelope in which insurance solicitation material is contained may be addressed to the parents of students. The address may not include any combination of words which imply that the correspondence is from a school, college, university or other education or training institution nor may it imply that the institution has endorsed the material or supplied the insurer with information about the student unless such is a correct and truthful statement.

2. All advertisements including, but not limited to, informational flyers used in the solicitation of insurance must be identified clearly as coming from an insurer or insurance producer, if such is the case, and these entities must be clearly identified as such.

3. The return address on the envelope may not imply that the soliciting insurer or insurance producer is affiliated with university, college, school, or other educational or training institution, unless true.

T. Introductory, Initial or Special Offers and Enrollment Periods

1. An advertisement of an individual policy or combination of such policies shall not state or imply that such policy or combination of such policies is an introductory, initial, or special offer, or that applicants will receive substantial advantages not available at a later date, or that the offer is available only to a specified group of individuals, unless such is the fact. An advertisement shall not describe an enrollment period as "special" or "limited" or use similar words or phrases in describing it when the insurer uses successive enrollment periods as its usual method of marketing its policies.

2. An advertisement shall not state or imply that only a specific number of policies will be sold, or that a time is fixed for the discontinuance of the sale of the particular policy advertised because of special advantages available in the policy.

3. An advertisement shall not offer a policy which utilizes a reduced initial premium rate in a manner which overemphasizes the availability and the amount of the reduced initial premium. A reduced initial or first year premium may not be described as constituting free insurance for a period of time. When an insurer charges an initial premium that differs in amount from the amount of the renewal premium payable on the same mode, all references to the reduced initial premium shall be followed by an asterisk or other appropriate symbol which refers the reader to that specific portion of the advertisement which contains the full rate schedule for the policy being advertised.

4. An enrollment period during which a particular insurance policy may be purchased on an individual basis shall not be offered within this state unless there has been a lapse of not less than six months between the close of the immediately preceding enrollment period for the same policy and the opening of the new enrollment period. The advertisement shall specify the date by which the applicant must mail the application, which shall be not less than 10 days and not more than 40 days from the date on which such enrollment period is advertised for the first time. This rule applies to all advertising media, e.g., mail, newspapers, radio, television, magazines, and periodicals, by any one insurer or insurance producer. The phrase *Any One Insurer* includes all the affiliated companies of a group of insurance companies under common management or control. This rule does not apply to the use of a termination or cutoff date beyond which an individual application for a guaranteed issue policy will not be accepted by an insurer in those

instances where the application has been sent to the applicant in response to his request. It is also inapplicable to solicitations of employees or members of a particular group or association which otherwise would be eligible under specified provisions of the Louisiana Insurance Code for group, blanket, or franchise insurance. In cases where an insurance product is marketed on a direct mail basis to prospective insureds by reason of some common relationship with a sponsoring organization, this rule shall be applied separately to each sponsoring organization.

U. An advertisement of a particular policy shall not state or imply that prospective insureds shall be or become members of a special class, group, or quasi-group and as such enjoy special rates, dividends, or underwriting privileges, unless such is the fact.

V. An advertisement shall not make unfair or incomplete comparisons of policies, benefits, dividends or rates of other insurers. An advertisement shall not disparage other insurers, insurance producers, policies, services, or methods of marketing.

W. For individual deferred annuity products or deposit funds, the following shall apply.

1. Any illustrations or statements containing or based upon interest rates higher than the guaranteed accumulation interest rates shall likewise set forth with equal prominence comparable illustrations or statements containing or based upon the guaranteed accumulation interest rates. Such higher interest rates shall not be greater than those currently being credited by the company, unless such higher rates have been publicly declared by the company with an effective date for new issues not more than three months subsequent to the date of declaration.

2. If an advertisement states the net premium accumulation interest rate, whether guaranteed or not, it shall also disclose in close proximity thereto, and with equal prominence, the actual relationship between the gross and the net premiums.

3. If any contract does not provide a cash surrender benefit prior to commencement of payment of any annuity benefits, any illustrations or statements concerning such contract shall prominently state that cash surrender benefits are not provided.

4. Any illustrations, depictions or statements containing or based on determinable policy elements shall likewise set forth with equal prominence comparable illustrations, depictions or statements containing or based on guaranteed policy elements.

X. An advertisement of a life insurance policy or annuity that illustrates nonguaranteed values shall only do so in accordance with current applicable state law relative to illustrating such values for life and annuity contracts.

Y. An advertisement for the solicitation or sale of a pre-need funeral contract or prearrangement, as defined in §4103.H, which is funded or to be funded by a life insurance policy or annuity contract shall adequately disclose the following:

1. the fact that a life insurance policy or annuity contract is involved or being used to fund a prearrangement, as defined in §4103.H; and

2. the nature of the relationship among the insurance producers, the provider of the funeral or cemetery merchandise or services, the administrator and any other person.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 22:3.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Insurance, Office of the Commissioner, LR 22:1225 (December 1996), amended LR 28:2364 (November 2002).

§4111. Identity of Insurer

A. The name of the insurer shall be clearly identified in all advertisements, and if any specific individual policy is advertised, it shall be identified either by form number or other appropriate description. If an application is a part of the advertisement, the name of the insurer shall be shown on the application. However, if an advertisement contains a listing of rates or features that is a composite of several different policies or contracts of different insurers, the advertisement shall so state, shall indicate, if applicable, that not all policies or contracts on which the composite is based may be available in all states, and shall provide a rating of the lowest rated insurer and reference the rating agency, but need not identify each insurer. If an advertisement identifies the issuing insurers, insurance issuer ratings need not be stated. An advertisement shall not use a trade name, an insurance group designation, name of the parent company of the insurer, name of a particular division of the insurer, service mark, slogan, symbol, or other device or reference without disclosing the name of the insurer, if the advertisement would have the capacity or tendency to mislead or deceive as to the true identity of the insurer or create the impression that a company other than the insurer would have any responsibility for the financial obligation under a policy.

B. No advertisement shall use any combination of words, symbols, or physical materials which, by their content, phraseology, shape, color, or other characteristics are so similar to a combination of words, symbols, or physical materials used by a governmental program or agency or otherwise appear to be of such a nature that they tend to mislead prospective insureds into believing that the solicitation is in some manner connected with such governmental program or agency.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 22:3.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Insurance, Office of the Commissioner, LR 22:1228 (December 1996), amended LR 28:2365 (November 2002).

§4113. Jurisdictional Licensing and Status of Insurer

A. An advertisement which is intended to be seen or heard beyond the limits of the jurisdiction in which the insurer is licensed shall not imply licensing beyond such limits.

B. An advertisement may state that an insurer or insurance producer is licensed in the state where the advertisement appears, provided it does not exaggerate such fact or suggest or imply that competing insurers or insurance producers may not be so licensed.

C. An advertisement shall not create the impression that the insurer, its financial condition or status, the payment of its claims or the merits, desirability, or advisability of its policy forms or kinds of plans of insurance are recommended or endorsed by a governmental entity. However, where a governmental entity has recommended or endorsed a policy form or plan, such fact may be stated if the entity authorizes its recommendation or endorsement to be used in an advertisement.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. Title 22, Section 3.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Insurance, Office of the Commissioner, LR 22:1224 (December 1996).

§4115. Statements about the Insurer

A. An advertisement shall not contain statements, pictures or illustrations which are false or misleading, in fact or by implication, with respect to the assets, liabilities, insurance in force, corporate structure, financial condition, age or relative position of the insurer in the insurance business. An advertisement shall not contain a recommendation by any commercial rating system unless it clearly defines the scope and extent of the recommendation, including but not limited to, placement of insurer's rating in the hierarchy of the rating system cited.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 22:3.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Insurance, Office of the Commissioner, LR 22:1228 (December 1996), amended LR 28:2366 (November 2002).

§4117. Enforcement Procedures

A. Each insurer shall maintain at its home or principal office a complete file containing a specimen copy of every printed, published, or prepared advertisement of its individual policies and specimen copies of typical printed, published or prepared advertisements of its blanket, franchise, and group policies, hereafter disseminated in this state, with a notation indicating the manner and extent of distribution and the form number of any policy advertisement. Such file shall be subject to inspection by this department. All such advertisements shall be maintained in said file for a period of either four years or until the filing of the next regular report on the examination of the insurer, whichever is the longer period of time.

B. If the department determines that an advertisement has the capacity or tendency to mislead or deceive the public, the department may require an insurer or insurance producer to submit all or any part of the advertising material for review or approval prior to use.

C. Each insurer subject to the provisions of these rules shall file with this department with its annual statement a certificate of compliance, executed by an authorized officer

of the insurer, wherein it is stated that to the best of his knowledge, information, and belief the advertisements which were disseminated by or on behalf of the insurer in this state during the preceding statement year, or during the portion of such year when these rules were in effect, complied, or were made to comply in all respects with the provisions of these rules and the insurance laws of this state, as implemented and interpreted by these rules.

D. In addition to any other penalties provided by the laws of this state, an insurer or producer that violates a requirement of this regulation shall be guilty of a violation of Part XXVI, Unfair Trade Practices, of the Louisiana Insurance Code, which regulates the trade practices on the business of insurance by defining and providing for the determination of all acts, methods, and practices which constitute unfair methods of competition and unfair or deceptive acts and practices in this state, and to prohibit the same.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 22:3.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Insurance, Office of the Commissioner, LR 22:1228 (December 1996), amended LR 28:2366 (November 2002).

§4119. Conflict with Other Rules

A. It is not intended that these rules conflict with or supersede any rules currently in force or subsequently adopted in this state governing specific aspect of the sale or replacement of life insurance including, but not limited to, rules dealing with life insurance cost comparison indices, deceptive practices in the sale of life insurance, and replacement of life insurance policies. Consequently, no disclosure required under any such rules shall be deemed to be an advertisement within the meaning of these rules.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. Title 22, Section 3.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Insurance, Office of the Commissioner, LR 22:1224 (December 1996).

§4121. Severability

A. If any Section, term or provision of this rule shall be adjudged invalid for any reason, such judgment shall not affect, impair or invalidate any other Section, term or provision of this rule, and the remaining Sections, terms and provisions shall be and remain in full force and effect.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. Title 22, Section 3.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Insurance, Office of the Commissioner, LR 22:1224 (December 1996).

§4123. Effective Date

A. This revised regulation shall become effective upon final publication in the *Louisiana Register* and shall apply to any life insurance or annuity advertisement intended for dissemination in this state on or after the effective date.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 22:3.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Insurance, Office of the Commissioner, LR 22:1229 (December 1996), amended LR 28:2366 (November 2002).

Chapter 45. Regulation 63C Prohibitions on the Use of Medical Information and Genetic Test Results

§4501. Purpose

A. The purpose of this regulation is to establish the statutory prohibitions on the use of medical information including pregnancy tests, genetic tests and related genetic test information by health insurers, third-party administrators, and insurance agents.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 22:3, 22:10, 22:2014, 22:2002(7), 22:214(22) and (23), 22:213.6, and 22:213.7 of the *Insurance Code*.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Insurance, Commissioner of Insurance, LR 24:1120 (June 1998).

§4503. Authority

A. This regulation is issued pursuant to the authority vested in the Commissioner of Insurance under R.S. 22:3, 22:10, 22:2014, 22:2002(7), 22:214(22) and (23), 22:213.6, and 22:213.7 of the *Insurance Code*.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 22:3, 22:10, 22:2014, 22:2002(7), 22:214(22) and (23), 22:213.6, and 22:213.7 of the *Insurance Code*.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Insurance, Commissioner of Insurance, LR 24:1120 (June 1998).

§4505. Definitions

Collection Obtaining a DNA sample or samples for the purpose of determining inherited or individual characteristics that can be utilized to predict the development of medical conditions in the future. *Collection* shall not mean diagnostic or medical treatment information about an existing medical condition or the prior medical condition of a person applying for or being covered by a health benefit plan.

Compulsory Disclosure Any disclosure of genetic information mandated or required by federal or state law in connection with a judicial, legislative, or administrative proceeding.

DNA Deoxyribonucleic acid including mitochondrial DNA, complementary DNA, as well as any DNA derived from ribonucleic acid (RNA). *DNA* shall not mean any medical procedure or test utilized in the practice of medicine for the purpose of diagnosing or treating a medical illness or health related condition.

Disclose To convey or to provide access to genetic information to a person other than the individual.

Family Includes an individual's blood relatives and any legal relatives, including a spouse or adopted child, who may have a material interest in the genetic information of the individual. For purposes of providing individual or group health care coverage, the term *family* shall not be used to prevent the collection of reasonable medical information